



Santa Cruz County Seniors Commission

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Meeting Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, February 18, 2025
TIME: 12:30 PM
LOCATION: United Way, 4450 Capitola Road, Ste 106, Capitola CA 95010
PRESENT: Suzanne Doty (*Chair - 1st District*), Dena Taylor (*1st District*), Mark Johannessen (*2nd District*),
Lois Sones (*3rd District*), Katie Limas (*Vice Chair - 4th District*), Carol Childers (*5th District*)
EXCUSED: Antonio Rivas (*2nd District*), Alicia Rodriguez (*3rd District*)
ABSENT: None
STAFF: Kaite McGrew (*Commissions Manager*)
GUESTS: No members of the public were present.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Agenda Review

Meeting convened at 12:38 PM.

2. **Motion to Approve December 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes.

Motion/Second: Taylor/Sones

Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment: None

4. New Business/Action Items:

4.1. Ad Hoc Senior Resource Fair Outreach and Planning Subcommittee Report

Subcommittee has not yet convened. Taylor reported Mid-County Senior Center expressed enthusiasm. London Nelson Center has already scheduled one for February 28th. Felton Community Hall is holding an all-age resource fair. Commissioners Taylor and Doty will meet with Mid-County Senior Center to determine their interest and report back. Limas will meet with Watsonville Senior Center to determine their interest and report back. Commissioners will send the subcommittee their suggested vendors.

4.2. Ad Hoc Legislative Subcommittee Report

Johannesson summarized the five CSL legislative priorities that the subcommittee identified as being most relevant to the seniors community in Santa Cruz County. They included SP-4 Ralph M. Brown Act Teleconferencing, AP-10: Hospitals: Patient Discharge Summary, Ap-2: Caregiving Grandparents support, and AP-6 Health Facilities: Transfer of Patients: Requirements. If authorized, Staff will work with Johannessen to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors advocating for their support of these legislative priorities and copy it to CSL.

Motion authorizing Co-Chairs to send a letter advocating with the Board for their support

Motion/Second: Johannessen/Sones

Motion passed unanimously

4.3. Commission Strategic Action Planning for 2025

Commission made the following amendments to their 2024 Strategic Action Plan for 2025: specified collaborative resource fairs with County senior centers, revised 3A to include safety net services for all vulnerable seniors, added advocacy for Assisted Living Waiver to 3B, revised 3D to include monitoring implementation, revised 4A to pertain to monitoring the status of restoring the ombudsman program, added natural disasters to 4C, and added 4D to monitor the impact of new immigration law enforcement on undocumented Latinx seniors.

Motion to approve and adopt the 2025 Strategic Action Plan.

Motion/Second: Childers/Taylor

Motion passed unanimously.

4. District Reports

5.1. District 1:

Doty shared information on a recent 8-week balance class that is going to be led by the Volunteer Center. She requested additional information on the cost of funding additional opportunities from the organizers. Doty attended a senior's line dancing event. Taylor had no report.

5.2. District 2

Johannessen provided an AAA report: met on Jan 15th, Senior Network Services was evicted in February, though the Community Bridges lease was extended for two years. CORE funding for Advocacy, Inc. (the County's Ombudsman contractor) was eliminated this year, though CORE safety net services (health care, meals, etc.) are still being prioritized. California Dept of Aging (CDA) allocated one-time monies in support of the Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties' AAA.

5.3. District 3: No Report

5.4. District 4: No Report

5.5. District 5:

Childers reported minimal damage from recent storms in the San Lorenzo Valley.

6. Senior Legislature Report: No Report

7. Staff Report:

Staff reported on the new payment system and will invite the District Attorney's Office to present on senior scams at an upcoming meeting.

8. Correspondence: None

9. Emerging Matters and Commissioner Announcements: None

10. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 2:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted by: Kaite McGrew, *Commissions Manager*